

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-stack optical data storage medium for recording and reading using a focused radiation beam having a wavelength of 655 nm entering through an entrance face of the medium during recording and reading, comprising:

a first substrate having, on a side thereof, a first recording stack  $L_0$  comprising a recordable type  $L_0$  recording layer comprising a dye, and formed in a first  $L_0$  guide groove, and a first reflective layer present between the  $L_0$  recording layer and the first substrate;

a second substrate having, on a side thereof, a second recording stack  $L_1$  comprising a recordable type  $L_1$  recording layer, said second recording stack being at a position closer to the

entrance face than the  $L_0$  recording stack and formed in a second  $L_1$  guide groove; and

a transparent spacer layer sandwiched between the first and second recording stacks, said transparent spacer layer having a thickness substantially larger than the depth of focus of the focused radiation beam,

characterized in that the first  $L_0$  guide groove has a depth  $G_{L0}$  in the range  $25 \text{ nm} < G_{L0} < 40 \text{ nm}$ , and the first reflective layer comprises a metal and has a thickness  $> 50 \text{ nm}$  so that a modulation M of 75% and a reflection level of 70% are obtained, wherein the modulation is  $M = (R_{\text{no-mark}} - R_{\text{mark}}) / R_{\text{no-mark}}$ ,  $R_{\text{mark}}$  and  $R_{\text{no-mark}}$  being reflection levels from a read out laser beam when respectively a written mark and no mark are present.

2. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first  $L_0$  guide groove has a full half maximum width  $W_{L0} < 350 \text{ nm}$ .

Claim 3 (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the recordable type  $L_0$  recording layer has a thickness between 70 nm and 150 nm measured on the land portion of the guide groove.

5. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein said multi-stack optical data storage medium further comprises a dielectric layer present at a side of the  $L_0$  recording layer opposite from the side where the first reflective layer is present.

6. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 5, wherein the dielectric layer has a thickness in the range of 5 nm - 120 nm.

7. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein said multi-stack optical data storage medium further comprises a second reflective layer

comprising a metal present at a side of the  $L_0$  recording layer opposite from the side where the first reflective layer is present.

8. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 7, wherein the second reflective layer has a thickness in the range of 5 nm -15 nm.

9. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 7, wherein the second reflective layer mainly comprises a metal selected from the group of Ag, Au, Cu, Al.

10. (Previously Presented) The multi-stack optical data storage medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the effective reflection level of the stacks is at least 0.18 at a radiation beam wavelength of approximately 655 nm.

Claim 11 (Canceled)